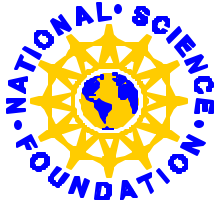


NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION  
4201 Wilson Boulevard  
Arlington, Virginia 22230

November 7, 2001

Office of the Assistant Director  
Biological Sciences



Dear Colleague:

We are announcing a change in the target dates for proposal submission for a number of the programs in the Division of Environmental Biology. Currently, the programs of Ecology, Ecosystem Studies, Long-Term Research in Environmental Biology, Population Biology, and Systematics have target dates of December 15 and June 15. **These target dates are changing to January 10 and July 10.** This change makes the target dates the same as those for most of the other programs in the Directorate for Biological Sciences. It also allows more time between the conclusion of each panel and the next target date. There is no change in the target dates for the programs of Biotic Surveys and Inventories (November 16, 2001 and the first Friday in November annually thereafter), Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grants (third Friday in November), or Integrative Research Challenges in Environmental Biology (second Monday in January).

Sincerely,

Mary E. Clutter  
Assistant Director

The National Science Foundation (NSF) funds research and education in most fields of science and engineering. Grantees are wholly responsible for conducting their project activities and preparing the result for publication. Thus, the Foundation does not assume responsibility for such findings or their interpretation. NSF welcomes proposals on behalf of all qualified scientists, engineers and educators. The Foundation strongly encourages women, minorities and persons with disabilities to participate fully in its programs. In accordance with Federal statutes, regulations and NSF policies, no person on grounds of race, color, age, sex, national origin or disability shall be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving financial assistance from NSF (some programs may have special requirements that limit eligibility). Facilitation Awards for Scientists and Engineers with Disabilities provide funding for special assistance or equipment to enable persons with disabilities (investigators and other staff, including student research assistants) to work on NSF-supported projects. See the program announcement or contact the program coordinator at (703) 292-5111, FIRS at 1-800-877-8339.

We want all of our communications to be clear and understandable. If you have suggestions on how we can improve this document or other NSF publications, please email us at [plainlanguage@nsf.gov](mailto:plainlanguage@nsf.gov).

## **PRIVACY ACT AND PUBLIC BURDEN STATEMENTS**

The information requested on proposal forms and project reports is solicited under the authority of the National Science Foundation Act of 1950, as amended. The information on proposal forms will be used in connection with the selection of qualified proposals; project reports submitted by awardees will be used for program evaluation and reporting within the Executive Branch and to Congress. The information requested may be disclosed to qualified reviewers and staff assistants as part of the review process; to applicant institutions/grantees to provide or obtain data regarding the proposal review process, award decisions, or the administration of awards; to government contractors, experts, volunteers and researchers and educators as necessary to complete assigned work; to other government agencies needing information as part of the review process or in order to coordinate programs; and to another Federal agency, court or party in a court or Federal administrative proceeding if the government is a party. Information about Principal Investigators may be added to the Reviewer file and used to select potential candidates to serve as peer reviewers or advisory committee members. See Systems of Records, NSF-50, "Principal Investigator/Proposal File and Associated Records," 63 Federal Register 267 (January 5, 1998), and NSF-51, "Reviewer/Proposal File and Associated Records," 63 Federal Register 268 (January 5, 1998). Submission of the information is voluntary. Failure to provide full and complete information, however, may reduce the possibility of receiving an award.

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 120 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to: Reports Clearance Officer, Information Dissemination Branch, DAS; National Science Foundation, Arlington, VA 22230.

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